

111TH CONGRESS  
2D SESSION

# H. R. 6194

To amend the National Environmental Education Act to update, streamline,  
and modernize that Act, and for other purposes.

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## IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

SEPTEMBER 23, 2010

Mr. POLIS of Colorado (for himself and Mr. CASTLE) introduced the following  
bill; which was referred to the Committee on Education and Labor

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## A BILL

To amend the National Environmental Education Act to  
update, streamline, and modernize that Act, and for  
other purposes.

1 *Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representa-*  
2 *tives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,*

3 **SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.**

4 This Act may be cited as the “National Environ-  
5 mental Education Reauthorization Act of 2010”.

6 **SEC. 2. FINDINGS AND POLICY.**

7 Section 2 of the National Environmental Education  
8 Act (20 U.S.C. 5501) is amended to read as follows:

9 **“SEC. 2. FINDINGS AND POLICY.**

10 **“(a) FINDINGS.—Congress finds that—**

1           “(1) threats to human health and environ-  
2           mental quality are increasingly complex, involving a  
3           wide range of conventional and toxic contaminants  
4           in the air and water and on the land;

5           “(2) there is growing evidence of international  
6           environmental problems, such as global warming,  
7           ocean pollution, and declines in species diversity, and  
8           that those problems pose serious threats to human  
9           health and the environment on a global scale;

10           “(3) environmental problems represent as sig-  
11           nificant a threat to the quality of life and the eco-  
12           nomic vitality of urban areas as they do the natural  
13           balance of rural areas;

14           “(4) to address increasingly serious problems  
15           associated with pollution and global climate change,  
16           it is necessary to accelerate deployment of low-car-  
17           bon technologies and clean sources of energy;

18           “(5) environmental education is a valuable tool  
19           to prepare people in the United States to compete  
20           globally in high-growth, environmentally friendly  
21           fields, such as—

22                   “(A) energy efficiency;

23                   “(B) green building design;

24                   “(C) commercial scale renewable energy;

25                   “(D) biofuels;

1 “(E) low-emission vehicles;

2 “(F) energy-efficient manufacturing facili-  
3 ties; and

4 “(G) the production of environmentally  
5 friendly products;

6 “(6) effective response to complex environ-  
7 mental problems requires understanding of the nat-  
8 ural and built environment, awareness of environ-  
9 mental problems and the origins of those problems  
10 (including those in urban areas), and the skills to  
11 solve those problems;

12 “(7) development of effective solutions to envi-  
13 ronmental problems and effective implementation of  
14 environmental programs requires a well-educated  
15 and trained, professional work force;

16 “(8) environmental education provides critical  
17 tools for that workforce by providing citizens with  
18 the skills to understand complex environmental  
19 issues so they may make informed decisions in their  
20 own lives and find solutions for real world challenges  
21 facing the United States as a whole;

22 “(9) business leaders increasingly believe that  
23 an environmentally literate workforce is critical to  
24 the long-term success of businesses in the United  
25 States;

1           “(10) environmental education helps prepare  
2           students, citizens, professionals, and people from all  
3           walks of life to compete for green jobs and business  
4           in an increasingly competitive global economy;

5           “(11) current Federal efforts to inform and  
6           educate the public concerning the natural and built  
7           environment and environmental problems are not  
8           adequate;

9           “(12) existing Federal support for development  
10          and training of professionals in environmental fields  
11          is not sufficient;

12          “(13) the Federal Government, acting through  
13          the Environmental Protection Agency, should work  
14          with local educational institutions, State education  
15          agencies, Indian tribes, tribal education agencies,  
16          not-for-profit educational and environmental organi-  
17          zations, noncommercial educational broadcast, cable,  
18          and Internet entities, and private sector interests—

19               “(A) to support development of curricula,  
20               special projects, and other activities;

21               “(B) to increase understanding of the nat-  
22               ural and built environment; and

23               “(C) to improve awareness of environ-  
24               mental problems;

1           “(14) the Federal Government, acting through  
2           the coordinated efforts of Federal agencies and with  
3           the Administrator, should work with local edu-  
4           cational institutions, State education agencies, In-  
5           dian tribes, tribal education agencies, not-for-profit  
6           educational and environmental organizations, non-  
7           commercial educational broadcasting entities, and  
8           private sector interests to develop programs to pro-  
9           vide increased emphasis and financial resources for  
10          the purposes of—

11                 “(A) attracting students into environ-  
12                 mental engineering careers; and

13                 “(B) assisting the students in pursuing the  
14                 programs to complete the advanced technical  
15                 education required to provide effective problem-  
16                 solving capabilities for complex environmental  
17                 issues;

18           “(15) Federal agencies, such as the Forest  
19           Service, United States Fish and Wildlife Service,  
20           National Park Service, Bureau of Land Manage-  
21           ment, and National Oceanic and Atmospheric Ad-  
22           ministration, have a wide range of environmental ex-  
23           pertise and a long history of cooperation with edu-  
24           cational institutions and technology transfer that  
25           can assist in furthering the purposes of this Act;

1 “(16) exposure to the natural environment is  
2 essential for healthy childhood development and for  
3 the physical and emotional health of children and  
4 adults; and

5 “(17) the Federal Government, acting through  
6 the Administrator, should work with local edu-  
7 cational institutions, State education agencies, In-  
8 dian tribes, tribal education agencies, not-for-profit  
9 educational and environmental organizations, and  
10 private sector interests to support environmental  
11 education activities and special projects—

12 “(A) to train, educate, and prepare citizens  
13 for careers in environmentally sustainable fields  
14 that promote the global transition to less pol-  
15 luting, higher-efficiency technologies and prac-  
16 tices;

17 “(B) to increase understanding of the ben-  
18 efits of exposure to the natural environment;

19 “(C) to improve understanding of how  
20 human and natural systems interact together;  
21 and

22 “(D) to broaden awareness of environ-  
23 mental issues.

24 “(b) POLICY.—It is the policy of the United States  
25 to establish and support a program of education on the

1 environment for students, personnel working with stu-  
2 dents, and the general public, through activities in schools,  
3 institutions of higher education, related educational activi-  
4 ties, the media, the public health and health care profes-  
5 sional communities, and businesses, and to encourage  
6 postsecondary students to pursue careers relating to the  
7 environment.”.

8 **SEC. 3. DEFINITIONS.**

9 Section 3 of the National Environmental Education  
10 Act (20 U.S.C. 5502) is amended to read as follows:

11 **“SEC. 3. DEFINITIONS.**

12 “In this Act:

13 “(1) ADMINISTRATOR.—The term ‘Adminis-  
14 trator’ means the Administrator of the Environ-  
15 mental Protection Agency.

16 “(2) ADVISORY COUNCIL.—The term ‘Advisory  
17 Council’ means the National Environmental Edu-  
18 cation Advisory Council established by section 9(a).

19 “(3) AGENCY.—The term ‘Agency’ means the  
20 Environmental Protection Agency.

21 “(4) BOARD OF DIRECTORS.—The term ‘Board  
22 of Directors’ means the Board of Directors of the  
23 Foundation.

1           “(5) ENVIRONMENTAL EDUCATION.—The term  
2           ‘environmental education’ means formal and non-  
3           formal education—

4                   “(A) regarding the relevant interrelation-  
5                   ships between dynamic environmental and  
6                   human systems, and which results in increasing  
7                   the capacity of a student for decisionmaking  
8                   and stewardship regarding natural and commu-  
9                   nity resources;

10                   “(B) that is specifically designed to foster  
11                   awareness of the environment and associated  
12                   problems;

13                   “(C) that conveys the knowledge and skills  
14                   to equip the general public to work individually  
15                   and collectively toward solutions to current en-  
16                   vironmental problems and the prevention of new  
17                   environmental problems; and

18                   “(D) the primary societal goals of which  
19                   include—

20                           “(i) measurable improvement in envi-  
21                           ronmental quality in a manner cal-  
22                           culated—

23                                   “(I) to foster and promote the  
24                                   general welfare;



1 “(II) to create and maintain con-  
2 ditions under which humans and na-  
3 ture can exist in productive harmony;  
4 and

5 “(III) to meet the social, eco-  
6 nomic, and other requirements of  
7 present and future generations of peo-  
8 ple of the United States;

9 “(ii) the provision to the public of op-  
10 portunities to acquire the knowledge, un-  
11 derstanding of science, and skills needed to  
12 protect and improve the environment; and

13 “(iii) the encouragement of actions  
14 that reflect stewardship of the environment  
15 by individuals, groups, and society as a  
16 whole.

17 “(6) ENVIRONMENTAL ENGINEERING.—The  
18 term ‘environmental engineering’ means the dis-  
19 cipline within engineering and science concerned  
20 with the development and application of scientific  
21 and technical solutions to protecting the aquatic and  
22 atmospheric environment, including all phases of  
23 water resources planning, water supply, water treat-  
24 ment, air pollution characterization and control, re-  
25 mediation of hazardous substances, environmental

1 transport of contaminants in surface and ground  
2 water and atmosphere, and methods for assessment  
3 and control of pollution.

4 “(7) FEDERAL AGENCY; AGENCY OF THE  
5 UNITED STATES.—The terms ‘Federal agency’ and  
6 ‘agency of the United States’ mean—

7 “(A) any department, agency or other in-  
8 strumentality of the Federal Government; and

9 “(B) any independent agency or establish-  
10 ment of the Federal Government (including a  
11 Government corporation).

12 “(8) FOUNDATION.—The term ‘Foundation’  
13 means the National Environmental Education Foun-  
14 dation established by section 10.

15 “(9) INDIAN TRIBE.—The term ‘Indian tribe’  
16 means—

17 “(A) an Indian tribe (as defined in section  
18 4 of the Indian Self-Determination and Edu-  
19 cation Assistance Act (25 U.S.C. 450b)); or

20 “(B) a tribal government or consortia with  
21 a mission or resolution or charter to address  
22 education or environmental issues.

23 “(10) LOCAL EDUCATIONAL AGENCY.—

24 “(A) IN GENERAL.—The term ‘local edu-  
25 cational agency’ has the meaning given the

1 term in section 9101 of the Elementary and  
2 Secondary Education Act of 1965 (20 U.S.C.  
3 7801).

4 “(B) INCLUSION.—The term ‘local edu-  
5 cational agency’ includes a tribal educational  
6 agency.

7 “(11) NONCOMMERCIAL EDUCATION BROAD-  
8 CASTING ENTITIES.—The term ‘noncommercial edu-  
9 cation broadcasting entities’ means any noncommer-  
10 cial educational broadcasting station (including any  
11 legal nonprofit affiliate of such a station), as defined  
12 and licensed by the Federal Communications Com-  
13 mission.

14 “(12) NONFORMAL EDUCATION.—The term  
15 ‘nonformal education’ means any organized edu-  
16 cational activity outside the established formal edu-  
17 cational system, whether operating separately or as  
18 an important feature of some broader activity linked  
19 with community groups and other organizations.

20 “(13) NOT-FOR-PROFIT ORGANIZATION.—The  
21 term ‘not-for-profit organization’ means an organiza-  
22 tion, association, or institution described in section  
23 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 that  
24 is exempt from taxation under section 501(a) of that  
25 Code.

1           “(14) PROGRAM.—The term ‘program’ means  
2           the Environmental Education and Training Program  
3           established by section 5(a).

4           “(15) SECRETARY.—The term ‘Secretary’  
5           means the Secretary of Education.

6           “(16) TRIBAL EDUCATIONAL AGENCY.—The  
7           term ‘tribal education agency’ means a school or  
8           community college that is—

9                   “(A) controlled by an Indian tribe or Alas-  
10           ka Native Village; and

11                   “(B) not administered by the Bureau of  
12           Indian Affairs.”.

13 **SEC. 4. OFFICE OF ENVIRONMENTAL EDUCATION.**

14           Section 4 of the National Environmental Education  
15   Act (20 U.S.C. 5503) is amended to read as follows:

16 **“SEC. 4. OFFICE OF ENVIRONMENTAL EDUCATION.**

17           “(a) ESTABLISHMENT.—The Administrator shall es-  
18   tablish within the Environmental Protection Agency an  
19   Office of Environmental Education.

20           “(b) DUTIES.—The Office of Environmental Edu-  
21   cation shall—

22                   “(1) develop and support programs and related  
23           efforts, in consultation and coordination with other  
24           Federal agencies, to improve understanding of the  
25           natural and built environment, the benefits of expo-

1 sure to the natural environment, and the relation-  
2 ships between humans and the environment, includ-  
3 ing the global aspects of environmental problems;

4 “(2)(A) develop and support programs and re-  
5 lated efforts that educate the general public on the  
6 benefits of reducing dependence on nonrenewable  
7 forms of energy, including—

8 “(i) the benefits such a reduction may have  
9 on global climate change; and

10 “(ii) the benefits of energy conservation;  
11 and

12 “(B) promote efforts to prepare citizens for em-  
13 ployment in environmentally friendly fields that con-  
14 tribute to healthy communities;

15 “(3) support development and the widest prac-  
16 ticable dissemination of model curricula, educational  
17 materials, and training programs for elementary and  
18 secondary students and other interested groups, in-  
19 cluding senior citizens in the United States;

20 “(4) develop and disseminate, in cooperation  
21 with other Federal agencies, not-for-profit edu-  
22 cational and environmental organizations, State  
23 agencies, Indian tribes, tribal education agencies,  
24 and noncommercial educational broadcast, cable, and

1 Internet entities, environmental education publica-  
2 tions, and audio/visual and other media materials;

3 “(5) develop and support environmental edu-  
4 cation seminars, training programs, teleconferences,  
5 and workshops for environmental education profes-  
6 sionals, as provided for in section 5;

7 “(6) manage Federal grant assistance provided  
8 to local educational agencies, institutions of higher  
9 education, other not-for-profit organizations, and  
10 electronic education outreach entities, including  
11 broadcast, cable, and Internet entities, under sec-  
12 tions 5 and 6;

13 “(7) ensure the operation of the environmental  
14 education and training program under section 5;

15 “(8) promote research, development, and eval-  
16 uation of effective approaches to achieving an envi-  
17 ronmentally literate population, as well as an im-  
18 proved environment;

19 “(9) administer the environmental fellowship  
20 programs provided for in section 7;

21 “(10) administer the environmental awards pro-  
22 gram provided for in section 8;

23 “(11) provide staff support to the Advisory  
24 Council provided for in section 9;

1           “(12) assess, in coordination with other Federal  
2           agencies, the demand for professional skills and  
3           training needed to respond to current and antici-  
4           pated environmental problems and cooperate with  
5           appropriate institutions, organizations, and agencies  
6           to develop training programs, curricula, and con-  
7           tinuing education programs for teachers, school ad-  
8           ministrators, and other professionals;

9           “(13) ensure the coordination of Federal stat-  
10          utes and programs administered by the Agency re-  
11          lating to environmental education, consistent with  
12          the provisions and purposes of those programs, and  
13          work to reduce duplication or inconsistencies within  
14          those programs;

15          “(14) work with the Department of Education,  
16          the Federal Interagency Committee on Education,  
17          the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administra-  
18          tion, and other Federal agencies to ensure the effec-  
19          tive coordination of programs relating to environ-  
20          mental education, including environmental education  
21          programs to encourage outdoor recreation relating to  
22          national, State, and local parks, national forests, na-  
23          tional marine sanctuaries, and wildlife refuges;

24          “(15) provide information on environmental  
25          education and training programs to local educational

1 agencies, State education and natural resource agen-  
2 cies, Indian tribes, tribal education agencies, and  
3 others; and

4 “(16) otherwise provide for the implementation  
5 of this Act.

6 “(c) DIRECTOR.—The Office of Environmental Edu-  
7 cation shall—

8 “(1) be directed by a Director, who shall be a  
9 member of the Senior Executive Service;

10 “(2) include a headquarters staff of not less  
11 than 6 full-time equivalent employees; and

12 “(3) be supported by at least 1 full-time equiva-  
13 lent employee in each Agency regional office.”.

14 **SEC. 5. ENVIRONMENTAL EDUCATION AND TRAINING PRO-**  
15 **GRAM.**

16 Section 5 of the National Environmental Education  
17 Act (20 U.S.C. 5504) is amended to read as follows:

18 **“SEC. 5. ENVIRONMENTAL EDUCATION AND TRAINING PRO-**  
19 **GRAM.**

20 “(a) ESTABLISHMENT.—There is established an En-  
21 vironmental Education and Training Program, the pur-  
22 pose of which shall be to train education professionals in  
23 the development and delivery of environmental education  
24 and training programs and studies.



1       “(b) FUNCTION AND ACTIVITIES.—The functions  
2 and activities of the program shall include, at a min-  
3 imum—

4           “(1) classroom and online training in environ-  
5 mental education and studies, including environ-  
6 mental sciences and theory, educational methods and  
7 practices, environmental career or occupational edu-  
8 cation, and topical environmental issues and prob-  
9 lems;

10          “(2) demonstration of the design and conduct  
11 of environmental field studies and assessments;

12          “(3) development and dissemination of environ-  
13 mental education programs and curriculum, includ-  
14 ing programs and curriculum to meet the needs of  
15 diverse ethnic and cultural groups;

16          “(4) sponsorship and management of inter-  
17 national exchanges of teachers and other educational  
18 professionals between the United States, Canada,  
19 and Mexico involved in environmental programs and  
20 issues;

21          “(5) maintenance or support of an electronic li-  
22 brary of environmental education materials, informa-  
23 tion, literature, and technologies, with electronic as  
24 well as hard copy accessibility;

1           “(6) review, evaluation, and dissemination of  
2       environmental education materials, training meth-  
3       ods, and related programs;

4           “(7) sponsorship of conferences, seminars, and  
5       related forums for the advancement and development  
6       of environmental education and training curricula  
7       and materials, including international conferences,  
8       seminars, and forums;

9           “(8) support of effective partnerships and net-  
10      works, as well as other education and environmental  
11      organizations, and the use of distant learning tech-  
12      nologies with such entities, to leverage resources for  
13      the delivery of environmental education;

14          “(9) provision of assistance to college and uni-  
15      versity faculty to incorporate environmental edu-  
16      cation in the training provided to future and current  
17      teachers and to educators working in informal set-  
18      tings;

19          “(10) development and implementation of an  
20      environmental education teacher’s resource and cur-  
21      riculum review program;

22          “(11) support of the development and imple-  
23      mentation of a professional certification program for  
24      environmental educators;

1           “(12) support of the integration of environ-  
2           mental education into kindergarten through 12th  
3           grade teacher pre-service training; and

4           “(13) such other activities as the Administrator  
5           determines to be consistent with the policies of this  
6           Act, with particular emphasis on developing environ-  
7           mental education programs, workshops, and training  
8           tools that are portable and can be broadly dissemi-  
9           nated.

10          “(c) GRANTS.—

11           “(1) IN GENERAL.—The Administrator shall  
12           provide grants to institutions of higher education or  
13           other institutions that are not-for-profit institutions  
14           (or consortia of such institutions) to operate the pro-  
15           gram required by this section.

16           “(2) TERM OF GRANT.—A grant provided to an  
17           institution of higher education or consortia under  
18           paragraph (1) shall have a multiyear term, as deter-  
19           mined by the Administrator.

20           “(3) APPLICATION.—Any institution of higher  
21           education or other institution (or consortia of such  
22           institutions) that is a not-for-profit organization and  
23           is interested in receiving a grant under this section  
24           may submit to the Administrator an application in

1 such form and containing such information as the  
2 Administrator may require.

3 “(4) CRITERIA FOR PROVISION OF GRANTS.—

4 The Administrator shall provide grants under this  
5 section on the basis of, with respect to the institu-  
6 tion or consortia under consideration—

7 “(A) the capability to develop environ-  
8 mental education and training programs;

9 “(B) the capability to deliver training to a  
10 range of participants and in a range of settings;

11 “(C) the expertise of the staff in a range  
12 of appropriate disciplines;

13 “(D) the relative economic effectiveness of  
14 the program in terms of the ratio of overhead  
15 costs to direct services;

16 “(E) the capability to make effective use of  
17 existing national environmental education re-  
18 sources and programs;

19 “(F) the results of any evaluation under  
20 paragraph (6); and

21 “(G) such other factors as the Adminis-  
22 trator determines to be appropriate.

23 “(5) PROHIBITION ON USE OF FUNDS.—No  
24 funds made available to carry out this section shall  
25 be used for the acquisition of real property (includ-

1       ing buildings) or the construction or substantial  
2       modification of any building.

3               “(6) REVIEW, EVALUATION, AND TERMI-  
4       NATION.—The Administrator shall establish proce-  
5       dures for—

6               “(A) a careful and detailed review and  
7       evaluation of the program to determine whether  
8       the quality of the program being operated by  
9       the grantee warrants continued support under  
10      this section; and

11              “(B) the termination of a grant to operate  
12      the program if the Administrator determines  
13      that the quality of the program does not war-  
14      rant continued support.

15      “(d) ELIGIBILITY FOR PARTICIPATION.—Individuals  
16      eligible for participation in the program are—

17              “(1) teachers, faculty, administrators, and re-  
18      lated support staff associated with local educational  
19      agencies, colleges, and universities;

20              “(2) employees of State education, environ-  
21      mental protection, and natural resource depart-  
22      ments;

23              “(3) employees of Indian tribes, tribal edu-  
24      cation agencies, and tribal environment and natural  
25      resource departments; and

1           “(4) employees of not-for-profit organizations  
2           involved in environmental education activities and  
3           issues.”.

4   **SEC. 6. ENVIRONMENTAL EDUCATION GRANTS.**

5           Section 6 of the National Environmental Education  
6   Act (20 U.S.C. 5505) is amended to read as follows:

7   **“SEC. 6. ENVIRONMENTAL EDUCATION GRANTS.**

8           “(a) IN GENERAL.—The Administrator may enter  
9   into a cooperative agreement or contract, or provide finan-  
10   cial assistance in the form of a grant, to support projects  
11   to design, demonstrate, or disseminate practices, methods,  
12   or techniques relating to environmental education and  
13   training.

14          “(b) ELIGIBLE ACTIVITIES.—Activities eligible for  
15   grant support pursuant to this section shall include—

16               “(1) environmental education and training pro-  
17   grams for—

18                   “(A) design, demonstration, or dissemina-  
19                   tion of environmental curricula, including devel-  
20                   opment of educational tools and materials;

21                   “(B) design and demonstration of field  
22                   methods, practices, and techniques, including  
23                   assessment of environmental and ecological con-  
24                   ditions and analysis of environmental pollution  
25                   problems;

1           “(C) projects to understand and assess a  
2 specific environmental issue or a specific envi-  
3 ronmental problem;

4           “(D) provision of training or related edu-  
5 cation for teachers, faculty, or related personnel  
6 in a specific geographical area or region; and

7           “(E) design and demonstration of projects  
8 to foster international cooperation in addressing  
9 environmental issues and problems involving the  
10 United States and Canada or Mexico; and

11          “(2) projects that—

12               “(A) support environmental education re-  
13 search, including through—

14                   “(i) the provision of assistance to  
15 Federal, State, tribal, and local officials  
16 and not-for-profit entities in applying the  
17 results of environmental education re-  
18 search; and

19                   “(ii) the development of improved  
20 methods and tools with wide applicability  
21 to evaluate, rate, and assess the effective-  
22 ness of environmental education;

23           “(B) develop broad awareness about the  
24 need of people in the United States for environ-  
25 mental education by engaging businesses and

1 business associations, health care providers and  
2 related associations, and other sectors to en-  
3 courage the application of environmental edu-  
4 cation practices and knowledge;

5 “(C) disseminate environmental education  
6 resources to formal and nonformal education  
7 organizations;

8 “(D) provide training or related profes-  
9 sional development for formal and nonformal  
10 environmental educators or related personnel;

11 “(E) design, demonstrate, or disseminate  
12 environmental curricula and encourage the  
13 adoption of the curricula by educational institu-  
14 tions, including development of environmental  
15 education tools and materials;

16 “(F) encourage the integration of environ-  
17 mental education into science, technology, engi-  
18 neering and math education, after-school edu-  
19 cation, graduation, and promotion require-  
20 ments, service learning, and civic education;

21 “(G) design and demonstrate innovative  
22 field methods, practices, and techniques that  
23 advance environmental education;

24 “(H) promote the study and use of how  
25 human and natural systems interact together to



1 address domestic and international environ-  
2 mental problems;

3 “(I) promote understanding of the impacts  
4 of large segments of society spending increasing  
5 amounts of time indoors and assess the value of  
6 exposure to the natural environment on physical  
7 and mental health;

8 “(J) improve understanding and assess-  
9 ment of a specific environmental issue or a spe-  
10 cific environmental problem;

11 “(K) promote the implementation of com-  
12 prehensive green school initiatives that seek to  
13 produce environmentally literate students  
14 while—

15 “(i) minimizing or eliminating the en-  
16 vironmental footprint of a school; and

17 “(ii) using the built and natural envi-  
18 ronments as a learning laboratory and a  
19 model of best practice for the local commu-  
20 nity;

21 “(L) foster international cooperation in ad-  
22 dressing environmental issues and problems in-  
23 volving the United States and Canada or Mex-  
24 ico;

1                   “(M) encourage new, leveraged public or  
2                   private funding for environmental education;  
3                   and

4                   “(N) support a professional network of en-  
5                   vironmental education researchers.

6           “(c) PRIORITY.—In providing grants pursuant to this  
7   section, the Administrator shall give priority to those pro-  
8   posed projects that will develop—

9                   “(1) a new, innovative, or significantly im-  
10          proved environmental education practice, method, or  
11          technique that is likely to result in increased envi-  
12          ronmental literacy or educate and train citizens in  
13          fields that promote the sustainability of natural re-  
14          sources;

15                  “(2) an environmental education practice, meth-  
16          od, or technique that—

17                          “(A) may have wide application;

18                          “(B) can be easily replicated; and

19                          “(C) can improve the systems for delivery  
20          of effective environmental education at the na-  
21          tional, regional, and local levels;

22                  “(3) adequate capacity within organizations for  
23          the education of citizens and the use of multidisci-  
24          plinary approaches with respect to environmental  
25          issues;

1           “(4) an environmental education practice, meth-  
2       od, or technique that—

3           “(A) addresses an environmental issue  
4       through field-based, quantitative, qualitative, or  
5       mixed methodological research;

6           “(B) has applicability at the community  
7       level; and

8           “(C) encourages service learning through  
9       volunteerism;

10          “(5) effective national, regional, State, and trib-  
11       al environmental education-related organizations,  
12       consortia, and alliances to educate citizens regarding  
13       how their actions, individually and collectively, affect  
14       environmental quality;

15          “(6) collaboration, including sharing of re-  
16       sources and expertise, among environmental edu-  
17       cation organizations and across sectors; or

18          “(7) an environmental education practice, meth-  
19       od, or technique that addresses an environmental  
20       issue which, in the judgment of the Administrator,  
21       is of a high priority.

22          “(d) ELIGIBLE APPLICANTS.—Any local, State, or  
23       tribal agency, college or university, not-for-profit organiza-  
24       tion, or noncommercial educational broadcasting entity

1 may submit an application to the Administrator in re-  
2 sponse to a solicitation published under paragraph (1).

3 “(e) PERFORMANCE OF PROJECT.—Each project cov-  
4 ered by an application approved under this section shall  
5 be performed by the applicant, or by a person satisfactory  
6 to the applicant and the Administrator.

7 “(f) COST-SHARING.—

8 “(1) FEDERAL AND NON-FEDERAL SHARES.—  
9 Except as provided in paragraph (2)—

10 “(A) the Federal share of the cost of a  
11 project funded by a grant provided under this  
12 section shall not exceed 75 percent of the total  
13 cost of the project; and

14 “(B) the non-Federal share of the cost of  
15 a project described in subparagraph (A) may be  
16 provided in the form of in-kind contributions  
17 and other noncash support.

18 “(2) EXCEPTION.—In a case in which the Ad-  
19 ministrator determines that a proposed project mer-  
20 its support and cannot be undertaken without a  
21 higher rate of Federal support, the Administrator  
22 may approve a grant under this section with a  
23 matching requirement other than that specified in  
24 this subsection, including a Federal share of up to  
25 100 percent.

1       “(g) MAXIMUM GRANT AMOUNT.—A grant provided  
2 under this section shall not exceed \$500,000.”.

3 **SEC. 7. ENVIRONMENTAL FELLOWSHIPS.**

4       Section 7 of the National Environmental Education  
5 Act (20 U.S.C. 5506) is amended to read as follows:

6 **“SEC. 7. ENVIRONMENTAL FELLOWSHIPS.**

7       “(a) IN GENERAL.—The Administrator may enter  
8 into a cooperative agreement or provide financial assist-  
9 ance in the form of a grant to establish a program to pro-  
10 vide for fellowships to postsecondary-level students.

11       “(b) PURPOSE.—The purpose of a fellowship pro-  
12 vided pursuant to this section shall be to provide students  
13 with an opportunity to train with professional staff of the  
14 Environmental Protection Agency and nongovernmental  
15 organizations involved in environmental issues to gain an  
16 understanding and appreciation of issues addressed by,  
17 and the skills and abilities possessed by, those staff.

18       “(c) MANAGEMENT.—The fellowship program shall  
19 be managed by the Office of Environmental Education.

20       “(d) ELIGIBLE PARTICIPANTS.—Individuals eligible  
21 for participation in the fellowship program shall be stu-  
22 dents enrolled at accredited colleges or universities who  
23 have successfully completed not less than 4 courses (or  
24 the equivalent) in environmental sciences or related stud-  
25 ies, as determined by the Administrator.”.

1 **SEC. 8. ENVIRONMENTAL EDUCATION AWARDS.**

2 Section 8 of the National Environmental Education  
3 Act (20 U.S.C. 5507) is amended to read as follows:

4 **“SEC. 8. ENVIRONMENTAL EDUCATION AWARDS.**

5 “(a) IN GENERAL.—The Administrator shall provide  
6 for national awards recognizing outstanding contributions  
7 to environmental education.

8 “(b) SPECIFIC AWARDS.—In carrying out this sec-  
9 tion, the Administrator may develop and administer  
10 awards to be known as the ‘President’s Environmental  
11 Youth Awards’, to be given to children in grades kinder-  
12 garten through 12 for outstanding projects to promote  
13 local environmental awareness.”.

14 **SEC. 9. ENVIRONMENTAL EDUCATION ADVISORY COUNCIL.**

15 Section 9 of the National Environmental Education  
16 Act (20 U.S.C. 5508) is amended to read as follows:

17 **“SEC. 9. ENVIRONMENTAL EDUCATION ADVISORY COUN-**  
18 **CIL.**

19 “(a) ESTABLISHMENT.—

20 “(1) IN GENERAL.—There is established a  
21 council, to be known as the ‘National Environmental  
22 Education Advisory Council’.

23 “(2) MEMBERSHIP.—The Advisory Council  
24 shall consist of up to 11 individuals, appointed by  
25 the Administrator, with expertise in environmental  
26 education.

1           “(3) TERM.—Each member of the Advisory  
2 Council shall hold office for a term of 3 years, ex-  
3 cept that—

4           “(A) any member appointed to fill a va-  
5 cancy occurring prior to the expiration of the  
6 term for which the predecessor of the member  
7 was appointed shall be appointed for the re-  
8 mainder of that term; and

9           “(B) the terms of the members first taking  
10 office, as designated by the Administrator at  
11 the time of appointment, shall expire as follows:

12           “(i) Four shall expire 3 years after  
13 the date of enactment of the National En-  
14 vironmental Education Reauthorization  
15 Act of 2010.

16           “(ii) Four shall expire 2 years after  
17 that date.

18           “(iii) Three shall expire 1 year after  
19 that date.

20           “(b) DUTIES.—The Advisory Council shall advise,  
21 consult with, and make recommendations to, the Adminis-  
22 trator on matters relating to activities, functions, and poli-  
23 cies, including grants, of the Agency under this Act.

24           “(c) COMPENSATION OF MEMBERS.—

1           “(1) NON-FEDERAL EMPLOYEES.—A member  
2           of the Advisory Council who is not an officer or em-  
3           ployee of the Federal Government may be com-  
4           pensated at a rate fixed by the Administrator, but  
5           not exceeding the daily equivalent of the annual rate  
6           of basic pay in effect for grade GS–15 of the Gen-  
7           eral Schedule under section 5332 of title 5, United  
8           States Code, for each day (including travel time)  
9           during which the member is engaged in the perform-  
10          ance of the duties of the Advisory Council.

11          “(2) FEDERAL EMPLOYEES.—A member of the  
12          Advisory Council who is an officer or employee of  
13          the Federal Government shall serve without com-  
14          pensation in addition to the compensation received  
15          for the services of the member as an officer or em-  
16          ployee of the Federal Government.

17          “(3) TRAVEL EXPENSES.—A member of the  
18          Advisory Council shall be allowed travel expenses, in-  
19          cluding per diem in lieu of subsistence, at rates au-  
20          thorized for an employee of an agency under sub-  
21          chapter I of chapter 57 of title 5, United States  
22          Code, while away from the home or regular place of  
23          business of the member in the performance of the  
24          duties of the Advisory Council.



1 “(d) APPLICABILITY OF FACCA.—Section 14(a) of the  
2 Federal Advisory Committee Act (5 U.S.C. App.) shall not  
3 apply to the Advisory Council.”.

4 **SEC. 10. NATIONAL ENVIRONMENTAL EDUCATION FOUNDA-**  
5 **TION.**

6 Section 10 of the National Environmental Education  
7 Act (20 U.S.C. 5509) is amended—

8 (1) by striking the section designation and  
9 heading and inserting the following:

10 **“SEC. 10. NATIONAL ENVIRONMENTAL EDUCATION FOUN-**  
11 **DATION.”;**

12 (2) in subsection (a)(1)(A)—

13 (A) in the first sentence, by striking “Na-  
14 tional Environmental Education and Training  
15 Foundation” and inserting “National Environ-  
16 mental Education Foundation”; and

17 (B) in the second sentence, by inserting  
18 “to work cooperatively with the private sector  
19 to undertake projects, programs, or initiatives  
20 that promote environmental education” after  
21 “advanced educational system”;

22 (3) in subsection (b)(1)(A), in the first sen-  
23 tence, by striking “13 directors” and inserting “not  
24 fewer than 9 nor more than 15 directors”; and

1 (4) by striking subsection (d) and inserting the  
2 following:

3 “(d) CONDITIONS ON DONATIONS.—For the purposes  
4 of this section, a gift, devise, bequest, property (either real  
5 or personal), voluntary services, or any other thing of  
6 value may be accepted by the Foundation even if it is en-  
7 cumbered, restricted, or subject to beneficial interests of  
8 private persons if, in the judgment of the Board—

9 “(1) any current or future interest in the gift,  
10 devise, bequest, property (either real or personal),  
11 voluntary services, or any other thing of value is for  
12 the benefit of the Foundation; and

13 “(2) any explicit or implied requirement of such  
14 a gift, devise, bequest, property (either real or per-  
15 sonal), voluntary services, or any other thing of  
16 value is consistent with the environmental and edu-  
17 cation goals and policies of the Environmental Pro-  
18 tection Agency and with the intents and purposes of  
19 this Act.”.

20 **SEC. 11. FUNDING.**

21 Section 11 of the National Environmental Education  
22 Act (20 U.S.C. 5510) is amended to read as follows:

23 **“SEC. 11. FUNDING.**

24 “(a) AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.—

1           “(1) IN GENERAL.—There is authorized to be  
2           appropriated to the Administrator to carry out this  
3           Act—

4                   “(A) \$40,000,000 for each of fiscal years  
5                   2010 and 2011;

6                   “(B) \$42,000,000 for each of fiscal years  
7                   2012 and 2013;

8                   “(C) \$44,000,000 for each of fiscal years  
9                   2014 and 2015;

10                   “(D) \$46,000,000 for each of fiscal years  
11                   2016 and 2017;

12                   “(E) \$48,000,000 for each of fiscal years  
13                   2018 and 2019; and

14                   “(F) \$50,000,000 for each of fiscal years  
15                   2020 and 2021.

16           “(2) SPECIFIC USE OF FUNDS.—Of the  
17           amounts made available under paragraph (1) for a  
18           fiscal year for environmental education activities, the  
19           Administrator shall distribute funds in the following  
20           manner:

21                   “(A) Up to 30 percent for the activities of  
22                   the Office of Environmental Education under  
23                   section 4, environmental fellowships under sec-  
24                   tion 7, awards under section 8, and the Envi-

1           ronmental Education Advisory Council under  
2           section 9.

3                   “(B) Twenty-five percent for the operation  
4           of the environmental education and training  
5           program under section 5.

6                   “(C) At least 35 percent for environmental  
7           education grants under section 6.

8                   “(D) Ten percent for support of the Na-  
9           tional Environmental Education Foundation  
10          under section 10.

11          “(b) AMOUNTS FOR FOUNDATION.—If the Adminis-  
12       trator determines that funds provided to the Foundation  
13       will be used to carry out the purposes of the Foundation  
14       in a manner consistent with the goals, objectives, and pro-  
15       grams of this Act, funds may be so provided—

16                   “(1) to match partially or wholly the amount or  
17       value of contributions (whether in currency, services,  
18       or property) made to the Foundation by private per-  
19       sons and State, local, and tribal governments; and

20                   “(2) to provide administrative services under  
21       section 10(e).”.

22       **SEC. 12. CONFORMING AMENDMENTS.**

23           (a) Section 7(f)(2) of the National Environmental  
24       Education Act (20 U.S.C. 5506(f)(2)) is amended by

1 striking “local education agency” and inserting “local edu-  
 2 cational agency”.

3 (b) Section 8(e) of the National Environmental Edu-  
 4 cation Act (20 U.S.C. 5507(e)) is amended in paragraphs  
 5 (1) and (3) by striking “local education agency” each  
 6 place it appears and inserting “local educational agency”.

7 (c) The table of contents of the National Environ-  
 8 mental Education Act (20 U.S.C. prec. 5501) is amended  
 9 by striking the items relating to sections 2 through 11  
 10 and inserting the following:

- “Sec. 2. Findings and policy.
- “Sec. 3. Definitions.
- “Sec. 4. Office of Environmental Education.
- “Sec. 5. Environmental Education and Training Program.
- “Sec. 6. Environmental education grants.
- “Sec. 7. Environmental fellowships.
- “Sec. 8. Environmental education awards.
- “Sec. 9. Environmental Education Advisory Council.
- “Sec. 10. National Environmental Education Foundation.
- “Sec. 11. Funding.”.

